

Report on Mission

Archdiocesan Response to Sexual Abuse

The *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* provides a comprehensive framework for addressing allegations of sexual abuse and for creating safe environments in parishes and schools. In September of 2014, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops audited our Archdiocese for the eleventh time, and the Archdiocese of Louisville was found to be compliant with all elements of the *Charter*; with no required changes or recommendations for changes.

Prevention/Education

- 2,638 employees and volunteers participated in 45 safe environment workshops during the past fiscal year. For more information, see www.archlou.org/safe.
- The Archdiocese sent bulletin blurbs about sexual abuse to parishes and schools for Sexual Abuse Prevention Month in April.
- A new criminal background record check process was established.
- The Archdiocese implemented new curriculum for students in parishes and schools.
- Extensive information is online about child abuse prevention, resources for parents, safe environment programs, and other materials. For more information, see www.archlou.org/restoringtrust.

Priest Assignment and Status

- Fr. Joseph Hemmerle, who was placed on administrative leave by Archbishop Kurtz on May 14, 2014, after an individual reported being sexually abused by Father Hemmerle in the 1970s, was arrested on September 8, 2014 and awaits a criminal trial for these charges.
- On December 17, 2014, Father Ronald Domhoff returned to ministry as pastor of St. Peter the Apostle Parish. He had been placed on administrative leave in September of 2014 after the Archdiocese received information from the police about an accusation of sexual abuse by Fr. Domhoff from the 1980s. His return to ministry occurred after several steps were taken during the administrative leave, including a police decision not to prosecute and a decision by the Archdiocese of Louisville Sexual Abuse Review Board that it could not substantiate the accusation.
- Early in the current fiscal year on August 12, 2015, Archbishop Kurtz placed Reverend Stephen Pohl on administrative leave after the Cyber Crimes Unit of the FBI executed a search warrant of his property to determine if photos that he took or possessed included child pornography. On August 21, Fr. Pohl was arrested on federal charges of accessing child pornography. Father Pohl has resigned as pastor of St. Margaret Mary Parish.

Sexual Abuse Review Board

- The Review Board reviews cases and monitors the implementation of our sexual abuse policies.

Victim Assistance and Outreach

- The victim assistance coordinator, Ms. Martine Siegel, RN, MSN, CNS, meets and assists victims. She can be reached by calling (502)636-1044 or emailing victimassistance@archlou.org.

Cooperation with Civil Authorities

- Reports or suspicion of child abuse are reported immediately to civil authorities, and the Archdiocese cooperates fully with any investigation. Call (877)597-2331 to report child abuse to the police.

Sexual Abuse Expenditures

The following summarizes expenditures from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015:

Counseling Fees and Support for Victims/Survivors	\$ 20,714
Legal Expense	\$ 1,290
Sexual Abuse Prevention/Education	\$ 177,390
TOTAL	\$ 199,394